United Nations A/C.5/53/24

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 October 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 118
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 14 October 1998 from the Acting President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith for appropriate action by the Fifth Committee a letter dated 12 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Congo to the United Nations, which contains a request for an exception to the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Percy Metsing **Mangoaela**
Acting President

98-30504 (E) 141098

Annex

Letter dated 12 October 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Congo to the United Nations

I wish to bring your attention to the issue of my country's arrears in its contribution to the United Nations budget. As you may know, the Republic of the Congo is gradually recovering from a civil war that destroyed the production infrastructure, mainly the banking system, and ruined the economy. Besides, the Government is facing legal suits from armament dealers who claim the Government should pay for the armaments orders of the former authorities, and some legal courts in Paris are blocking financial transactions between my country and any foreign country.

Because of our deep commitment to full participation in all United Nations activities, I appeal to you to issue an exemption from the provisions of Article 19 for the Republic of the Congo, as has been done for such countries as Guinea-Bissau, Georgia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, while I continue to pressure the Congolese authorities to meet their duties.

(*Signed*) Henri Blaise **Gotienne**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.